The claims have been amended above to meet the requirements of 37CFR1.121 and overcome the rejection in the Action dated April 26, 2004.

5   In response to the Action dated March 24, 2004, Applicant affirms the telephone provisional election of the invention of Group 1, Claims 1-11. This election is believed to be moot with the amendment of Claim 12 to include the language of Claim 1 in the Preliminary Amendment recently filed after the telephone
10   interview of March 19, 2004.

The claims have been rejected under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite (Paragraph 5). The claims have been amended to define formation of a resin matrix within the blanket and formation of adhesive outer surfaces on the blanket. Also, the claims have
15   been amended to specify final substrate surfaces. Further, the claims now provide a positive antecedent for said coated matrix/blanket. In view of the above, it is believed that the rejection under 35 USC 112 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 - 7 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being
20   unpatentable over Payne 5,496,434 (Paragraph 7). Also, the Examiner has stated that there is no suggestion in the art to perform the limitation in Claim 8 in the process taught by Payne '434 (Paragraph 8). Rather than making Claim 8 independent, language from Claim 8 has been added to Claim 1 to provide a main
25   claim on which dependent claims 2 - 11 can depend.

In view of all of the foregoing, together with the preliminary amendment filed April 12, 2004 and the above amendment and response, it is submitted that the amended claims now are in condition for acceptance. The Examiner is encouraged
30   to telephone the undersigned if additional discussion is required. Temporary No. 4/6/04 to 6/7/04, 407-365-7588 1381 Haven Dr., Oviedo, FL 32765.

Entry of the above amendment, acceptance of the amended claims and allowance of the above application are respectfully
35   solicited,   Date 5/24/04

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